ACTUS WORKPLACE LAWYERS

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Latest enterprise agreement wage outcomes in the manufacturing industry

The Fair Work Commission's last two fortnightly <u>statistical reports</u> on enterprise agreements provide information about 49 enterprise agreements in the manufacturing and associated industries lodged for approval between 16 July and 12 August 2022. The results are insightful.

Between 30 July and 12 August 2022, 24 enterprise agreements in the manufacturing and associated industries were lodged for approval. The average annualised wage increase (AAWI) in these agreements was 4%. Nine of the 24 agreements (37.5%) had consistent wage increases across the duration of the agreement. Seven of the 24 agreements (29%) had a higher wage increase on commencement.

Between 16 July and 29 July 2022, 25 enterprise agreements in the manufacturing and associated industries were lodged for approval. The average annualised wage increase in these agreements was 3.3%. Nine of the 25 agreements (36%) had consistent wage increases across the duration of the agreement. Four of the 24 agreements (16%) had a higher wage increase on commencement.

While the results are not yet sufficient to confirm a trend, the AAWI in the agreements included in the latest fortnightly report, published on 26 September 2022, is higher than the agreements in the previous report (4%, compared to 3.3%). Also, a greater proportion of the agreements in the latest fortnightly report contain a higher wage increase on commencement than the agreements in the earlier report (29%, compared to 16%).

Actus Workplace Lawyers are available to provide strategic advice to employers about enterprise bargaining, as well as assistance in drafting and negotiating enterprise agreements, dealing with any industrial action, and arranging approval by the FWC. We are also able to assist with applications to vary or terminate enterprise agreements.

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